

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Preliminary Amendment
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REMARKS

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/978,217, now U.S. Patent No. 6,648,497, which claims the benefit of the United States Provisional Patent Application having serial number 60/261,562 and filed on January 15, 2001. Claims 1-11 originally pending in that application are hereby cancelled in favor of new claims 12-27 as provided above.

The numerous changes to the specification, the abstract and the drawings are provided for in the comments above.

The Examiner is encouraged to contact the representative for the Applicant with any questions concerning this application.

Respectfully submitted,,



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PLEASE DIRECT ALL

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